

The Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 18, 1896.

REPUBLICAN CITY TICKET.

For Mayor—E. H. RIBBLE. For Treasurer—DANIEL WILLIAMS. For Controller—F. J. WIDMAYER. For Assessors—CHARLES FOWLER, CHRIST FICKUS, WILLIAM DAWSON. Election Day, Feb. 18.

No matter what the result may be, the Tribune tomorrow will, as its custom, contain complete returns of the election. Get the best.

Final Advice as to the Viaduct.

If a "last word" be permissible with reference to the viaduct, it is a word of admonition to the taxpayers of this prosperous and rapidly growing city to build with an eye to the city's future, the development of which must come through wise and liberal public improvements. A mistaken notion prevails in some quarters that the city is all the time piling up bonded indebtedness, but doing nothing to cancel this indebtedness at its maturity. Nothing could be further from the truth.

To authorize \$150,000 of new indebtedness at this time will add nothing to the tax return of each citizen, thanks to the efficient and economical manner in which the finances of the city have been administered under Republican municipal supremacy. The estimate that the viaduct will cost, at the outside, not more than 40 cents a year to each average home-owner is based upon the supposition that the city's indebtedness will continue at its present figure plus the contemplated new bond issue. But it will not. The old indebtedness will gradually be paid off. And as this occurs, the tax rate will fall in corresponding ratio, until the viaduct will have been paid for without the taxpayers having been conscious of its cost.

White on this subject it might be well to remind the Republican voters of Hyde Park that if they get the viaduct they ought to have their respected neighbor and trusted fellow-countryman, Daniel Williams, in the city treasurer's office, to look after the finances during the viaduct's construction. To vote for the viaduct and then not to vote for Williams for treasurer would be to announce a lack of confidence in the integrity of a Welsh supervision of the city's fiscal interests, such as the voters of the West Side, in our opinion, do not feel.

Vote for the viaduct, and show that Scranton is capable of being up-to-date.

Some Facts Concerning Canada.

The Canadian minister of education, Mr. Ross, in a recently issued public address, endeavored to stir up anti-American feeling by asserting that "the oath which every naturalized citizen of the United States takes is an obligation to defend the country against all her enemies, particularly against the government of Great Britain." But that distinguished Unionist, Professor Goldwin Smith, is unkind enough to knock the props from under this specious misrepresentation by showing that the oath required of an applicant for naturalization is that he "will support the constitution of the United States, and that he absolutely and entirely renounces and abjures all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty of which he was before a citizen or subject." As Professor Smith pertinently adds: "The form is the same for applicants of all nationalities. No invidious distinction is made in the case of those who are subjects of Great Britain. This correction is due to the thousands of Canadians who are every year becoming naturalized citizens of the United States, and who, if Mr. Ross' statement were true, would be guilty of self-degradation."

No doubt the purpose of Minister Ross' address was to discourage Canadian immigration into the United States. If so, it will probably not prevail while the 4,523,229 people of Canada stagger along under a public debt of nearly \$70 per capita, and are burdened to support a set of officials whose salary-drawing power would do credit to Tammany at its best. Following are some of the figures: First, the ornamental governor general gets \$50,000 a year for doing nothing, together with another \$50,000 or thereabouts for maintenance. Then he has a cabinet of fifteen ministers, eleven of whom receive \$8,000 a year. Next are the lieutenant governors, one for each province, who are paid in Ontario, \$10,000; Quebec, \$10,000; Manitoba, \$10,000; Nova Scotia, \$9,000; New Brunswick, \$9,000; British Columbia, \$9,000; Prince Edward's Island, \$7,000; Northwest Territories, \$7,000, or \$71,000 all told. This does not include the maintenance of official residences for the lieutenant governors, nor the salaries of their secretaries and aids-de-camp, which will bring the total well up to \$100,000. To this must be added

\$716,424 for clerk-hire and incidentals in the various departments, while to govern the different provinces costs, in addition to the lieutenant governors' salaries and perquisites, for Ontario, with only a little more than 2,000,000 population, \$278,750; for Quebec, with 1,500,000 population, \$388,050; for Nova Scotia, with 450,000 population, about \$75,000; for New Brunswick, with 221,263 population, over \$40,000; and for Manitoba, with 152,506 population, over \$30,000.

Under these circumstances it is not at all strange that the better class of Canadians, to the number of more than a million and a quarter within the past two decades, should have hastened to get on this side the border; nor is it strange that the officials of Canada, who fare so well, should want to keep others from following these emigrants' example.

Vote for Daniel Williams, and insure an honest administration of the city's finances.

A Word in Closing.

By the time these words come before the readers' eyes the municipal battle in this city will have reached its last and decisive stage. Whatever may be the result of the day's balloting, the Tribune takes, in advance, this occasion of congratulating the citizens of Scranton upon the fact that in the main the closing contest, while animated beyond the average of local campaigns, and while to a large extent, from unavoidable circumstances, a fight of rival personalities, has been kept upon a plane of dignity and self-respect. We say "in the main," because it is true that the Scranton "Republican," speaking in factional bitterness and malice, has descended to deeds unprecedented even in the filthy records of its unscrupulous proprietor. But we acquit the Democratic candidates of individual responsibility for this nastiness, and regard that they were powerless to avert from their newspaper champions the unprovoked unfairness which has characterized The Tribune's allusions to themselves.

For the restriction of personal abuse to the anti-Republican side in this fight there is consolation in the fact that if any man in the city of Scranton can, by the sheer force of his determined and manly individuality, draw the fire of factional vilification without endangering his final standing as a citizen, that man is Ezra H. Ripple. Whether elected or defeated as a result of today's expression at the polls, Colonel Ripple will remain the same sturdy, generous and charitable man, the same friend of the weak and of the poor, the same indefatigable champion of all that makes for better citizenship and cleaner civic conditions that he has uniformly been since, in this city, he grew from humble circumstances to man's estate and first became the natural leader that he is. And so, perhaps, it is well that he alone should be forced to bear the brunt of the charge which is being made upon clean government and honorable business enterprise in this community, qualified to stand it.

At the same time we shall be deceived in the quantity of common fairness in Scranton if the electors of Scranton shall today consent to sacrifice a candidate so concededly worthy upon the altar of private malice. We prefer to believe that instead of speeding the current hue and cry against one of the founders and makers of this prosperous city; instead of being deflected from an obvious duty by the siren voice of political apostates, who would delight to see reputable Republicanism ruined, they will rally to Ripple's standard and accord their sovereign favor to the excellent Republican ticket from top to bottom. Such a course of action is called for by the best interests of the municipality, which have never been so well cared for as under Republican administration conducted along lines of which Mayor Ripple ten years ago was the successful originator; and it is imperatively demanded by every consideration of personal justice.

Some journals affect to deplore the number of Republican "favorite sons." We do not agree with them. The more presidential candidates the merrier. It would be a mean state which would refuse to compliment its leading statesman if he wanted a complimentary vote. Far better a surplus of good presidential timber than a deficit.

Well Intended, but Unwise.

Representative Loud is the father of a bill (H. R. 4568) which, although good in intention, is calculated, in effect, to work much hardship and injustice to interests which deserve considerate treatment by congress. His measure provides for the removal of certain forms of printed matter from the regular second class of mailable matter, for which the postage rate is one cent a pound, to a special classification, on which the rate shall be one cent for each four ounces or fraction thereof. The forms of printed matter involved are: All sample copies of newspapers and periodicals; all books or reprints of books, whether sold by subscription or otherwise, or whether they have been issued as premiums or supplements or form parts of regular newspapers or periodicals; all unsold copies of newspapers and periodicals, commonly termed "returns," and now customarily sent back by many dealers to publishers through the mail, and all extra numbers of regular publications sent by the publishers thereof in the interest of advertisers.

The intent of this bill is to cause publishers of trashy "libraries" and similar bad literature, which only ostensibly have subscription lists, to pay a higher rate of postage than they now pay, thus increasing the postal revenues at a point where there has always been a deficiency between cost of transmission and postal receipts. The effect of the bill is to place a burden indiscriminately upon all publishers and all readers of magazines, weekly newspapers and reputable periodicals. As has been well said by another, by the passage of this bill in its present form—"The era of marvelously low-priced literature in America, which duplicated nowhere else on earth, and which has been brought about by the hitherto uniformly liberal postage laws of the United States, would be brought to a sudden close. The admirable system by which more widely disseminated, good literature more extensively distributed and the means of culture placed within the reach of the millions at less expense than elsewhere, would suffer a crushing blow, while at the same time it is exceedingly

doubtful whether the postal deficit would be made good, since the rebelling of the postal rate for the classes of printed matter involved would probably subvert the entire system. This would certainly lead to a tremendous shrinkage of the printing and publishing industries. Many concerns, especially among the younger and weaker ones, would be forced to the wall. The result would be a general depression, stereotypers, binders, papermakers and others would find themselves without the means of earning a livelihood.

It may well be questioned whether the exclusion of vicious cheap literature from the mails is possible by the method adopted in this bill. Our observation is that readers who want fifth are much more willing to pay a high price for it than those who want decency. The tendency of the price of decent literature, daily, weekly and monthly, is unmistakably downward, as is shown in the increasing number and merit of penny newspapers and ten-cent magazines. But the tendency of the price of filthy literature is rather upward than downward. The weekly story papers which revel in sensation, the "nickle" and "dime" libraries and novels, the salacious yellow-backed stuff of notorious renown get their price without a murmur from those who read that kind of reading. The point therefore is that Representative Loud, while ostensibly hitting at the publishers of rot, really misses them and slaps decent and commendable publishers full in the face. His bill, if it cannot be amended so as to make it equitable, should be defeated. There cannot be too much good cheap literature.

Vote for Ezra H. Ripple for mayor, because he unmistakably deserves it.

Postal Savings Banks.

Several bills providing for the establishment in this country of the postal savings bank system are under consideration by congress. Of these two are most prominent. One was introduced by Senator Mitchell, of Oregon, and provides that postmasters shall keep on sale postal savings stamps of 5 and 10 cents and \$1, and postal savings cards upon which such stamps, when sold, shall be affixed. When these cards are filled with stamps any postmaster is authorized to accept them in exchange for certificates of deposit bearing interest at the rate of 3.25 per cent. per year. The postmaster general is also authorized to designate certain postoffices to receive deposits in sums not less than \$1 and not more than \$100, which shall bear interest at the rate of 3 per cent in a similar manner. The other bill, which was drafted by Representative Bowers of California, limits deposits to \$5, with \$200 as a maximum, and provides that no interest shall be paid to any depositor upon sums exceeding \$2,000. Until deposits reach the sum of \$5 they are to be kept in pass books, but then, at the option of the depositor, the postmaster may issue a twenty-year 3 per cent bond for the sum of \$5 or any multiple thereof.

It would seem to be possible, by a judicious combination of these two measures, to retain the merits of both without the weaknesses of either. It ought to be practicable, we should think, to give a uniform rate of 3 per cent. interest on all sums, great or small, which might be offered at any designated postoffice for deposit. If not that, the interest on small deposits should be made sufficiently high to supply an incentive for children and workmen to save their pennies and invest them with Uncle Sam. It is not likely that many large deposits would be made. Those who have money in \$1,000 or \$2,000 lump sums to deposit for small interest will prefer to make terms with national and state banks, nearly all of which offer 3 per cent. and some of which pay 4 per cent. on deposits of this character. The one merit of the postal savings bank system which commends it as a theory to public favor is that it offers an inducement to the young in small communities to save their slight resources. To this end the rate of interest ought to be placed as high as can be done without imposing a burden upon the tax-paying elder folk.

Vote for Fowler, Fickus and Dawson, and secure equitable, business-like city assessments.

Vote for Fred J. Widmayer for controller, and reward demonstrated merit.

RIBBLE OR RAILLY.

From Last Night's Truth. We take the liberty to address the following remarks to the supporters of our esteemed townsman, Mr. James G. Bailly, who aspires to be mayor of Scranton:

In case of some great emergency, that would stir the city to its profoundest depths, which would you prefer at the head of a committee of safety, Ezra H. Ripple or James G. Bailly? In the event of a great industrial boom, bringing vast acquisitions of capital to this city, and affording multiplied opportunities for the employment of labor, in whose hands would you prefer to place the giving of the necessary aid and information on the subject to investors, those of Ezra H. Ripple or James G. Bailly?

Should there be a famine, as the result of long-continued industrial depression, and all the well-springs of sympathy in the community were appealed to, which would you prefer to head the work of giving relief, Ezra H. Ripple or James G. Bailly? Should there be a war, as the result of the Venezuelan affair, for instance, to whom would you, in your patriotic zeal, look for leadership, Ezra H. Ripple or James G. Bailly?

If you were furnishing of hunger and cold, which would you first call on for assistance, Ezra H. Ripple or James G. Bailly? In any of life's duties, in which courage, honor and kindness are essential, which would you select for a leader, Ezra H. Ripple or James G. Bailly? You will notice that in this brief article we say nothing for or against either of these two estimable gentlemen. We simply submit a few timely thoughts for the consideration of the Bailly men themselves.

We trust they will ponder carefully over these suggestions, write the name of the man of their choice at the end of each question, and mark their ballot for him at tomorrow's election. It is as certain an assurance that the suggestions are conscientiously answered by every Bailly man, and he marks his ballot accordingly, the city of Scranton will elect a mayor tomorrow of whom she will have good reason to be proud.

LET FAIRNESS DECIDE.

From Last Night's Truth. The final argument of the city campaign will take place tomorrow, at the polls, when the electors will decide whether Ezra H. Ripple or James G. Bailly shall be the next mayor of Scranton. The verdict rendered at the ballot box will surely measure the success of a party, a faction or a man, and

for this reason it should be wise and well-considered. As every man's name is first in his thoughts, so should the welfare of this city of hunes be of more importance to all of us than the sordid success of any political or journalistic ambition.

There has been so much of the sheet-lightening of anger in the air during the campaign that a good many persons have permitted their best judgments to be led or misled, and in the clashing of the elements the real interests of the city have been lost sight of, even by men ordinarily cool-headed, and the spirit of faction has taken possession of the most justiciable. This is greatly to be regretted, but it is always "whis" in unscrupulous and the ambitious, those who make a trade of politics, succeed in bringing about for the purpose of confounding the calm judgments of men.

The creature who perpetrated the vile cartoon of "the tattooed man" on Mr. Haine, when that great statesman was the popular hero of his party, was not fit to black Bialy's boots; but he could throw mud and make a stain, and hold a famous man up to public ridicule by insinuating that he was a gambler. Many voters, so he doubtless served the purpose of his masters. But he inflicted a wound at the same time that did not heal until the noble man he aimed at grew forever still.

There is too much of this same malignant spirit running through all our politics, making it impossible for the average man to run the gauntlet of a campaign on an equal footing with the best. It is sometimes hard for those who have but little business and no political connections, to see the truth and a falsehood with frills on it; and so the political results are frequently unsatisfactory.

It is the size of Scranton, however, it should be easy to recognize the difference between the sterling and the spurious, and to sift truth from error when in an exciting municipal campaign. This, after all, is what every citizen should do before marking his ballot tomorrow. Let every voter put aside the slanders, the passions and the excitement of the canvass, and calmly ask himself this question: "Who is the better man for mayor of Scranton—Ezra H. Ripple or James G. Bailly?" If he does this, and permits his conscience to give an honest answer, it will be Ezra H. Ripple.

MISUNDERSTOOD.

Wellman, in the Times-Herald. Senator Quay is someone respects a very mis-understood man. The assaults of the party press have led many people to regard him as a shallow, vulgar, and as a man of tricks and wiles, as one whose standard of honor is not very high and whose ambition is that of the ward politician. Nothing could be further from the truth. While it is true Mr. Quay is perhaps the shrewdest and most resourceful politician in the country, he commands to an extraordinary extent the confidence and respect of his friends by his conduct with him, either in politics or business. His word is regarded as good as his bond, and his enemies are his good friends. There is no sacrifice too great for him to make for them. He is a delightful companion, and a most generous and kind man. A year ago he set out to translate Horace. Mr. Quay rarely goes into society, or even to a public dinner, but he has a large part of all the standard poetry committed to memory. A year ago he set out to translate Horace. Mr. Quay rarely goes into society, or even to a public dinner, but he has a large part of all the standard poetry committed to memory.

TOLD BY THE STARS.

Daily Horoscope Drawn by Ajaachus, The Tribune Astrologer. Astrological cast: 2:17 a. m., for Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1896. A child born on this day will never be disturbed by the "claxon calls" of mug-wump roosters. He will realize that even one mule can kick up quite a cloud in a country road on a dusty day. He will note that men of the city expect to vote on principle and for good government tomorrow. Mr. Horn's estimate of results is of course subject to shrinkage. Democratic enthusiasm accompanied mercury in the drop below zero yesterday.

The man who has kept his mouth shut during the past month will remark "I told you so," tomorrow. Ajaachus' Advice. Be not deceived by bluff or gush of ingrates who disport in slush; but trust your gutt without, and send the traitors to the rear.

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Your choice of 3,000 pieces, comprising Gowns, Drawers, Chemise, Corset Covers, Infants' Dresses, very fair cotton, well made and neatly trimmed, at 25 Cents.

Your choice of 2,000 Nightgowns, with full sleeves, handsome embroidery, double backs, felled seams, first-class muslin, full length and perfectly made, at 49 Cents.

Skirts, Corset Covers, Drawers, Chemise and Infants' Dresses at the same price. Your choice of 1,500 Gowns, Drawers, Chemise, Corset Covers, Skirts and Infants' Dresses, well made, of Hill Muslin, at 73 Cents.

Your choice of 1,000 Gowns, Drawers, Corset Covers, Skirts, Children's Long and Short Dresses, made of Langdon, Auburn and Pride of the West Cotton, trimmed with rich openwork embroidery, at 98 Cents. Any lot after being sold out cannot be replaced, therefore early comers get the pick.

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Don't Be Fooled Because some jealous competitor tells you that ours is a sale of job lots, left overs or shop-worn goods. What few of this class of goods we have we are all but giving away. OUR STOCK IS ALL NEW, FRESH CLEAN GOODS, and we are closing it out at less than cost price. When we open up for spring trade it will be with all new goods. To illustrate the reductions we are making we quote you a few prices: All of our \$4.00 Shoes we sell for... All of our \$1.00 and \$1.75 Shoes we sell for \$1.00. Above prices mean both Men's and Women's Goods. Children's Shoes 60c that were \$1.00.

Our immense trade proves that the people appreciate the bargains we are giving them, and anything said or published about our sale by those actuated by that terrible green-eyed monster, jealousy, only brings our GRAND SHOE SALE into still greater prominence. Fall into line and get your share of the bargains.

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